



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Adoption Day**

**WHEREAS**, the state of Rhode Island recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe, and loving families through adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 115,000 children in the United States foster care system are waiting to be adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 300 children in Rhode Island are waiting for permanent families; and

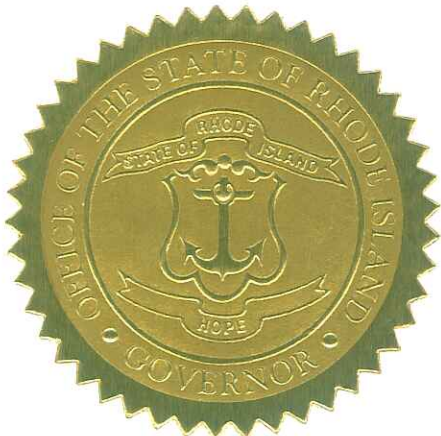
**WHEREAS**, every successful adoption is more than an achievement for these children and their adoptive families; it is a success story in which all residents of Rhode Island can share; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island's future depends on today's children and the state is committed to helping all children grow and develop to their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families, the local courts of Rhode Island will open their doors on Adoption Day, Saturday, November 19, to finalize the adoptions of children and join other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

**WHEREAS**, this effort along with similar celebrations in all 50 states, the District Columbia and Puerto Rico will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim November 19, 2011 as Adoption Day in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State